

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DLOS-06

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01

TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAL-01 /128 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3098

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 15764

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE VIEWS ON GIFA

1. SUMMARY. JAPANESE FISHERIES AUTHORITIES TELL US DIET CANNOT RATIFY A GIFA BY MARCH 1, THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIETS SHOULD BE COMPLETED BEFORE THOSE WITH JAPANESE AND THAT ALASKAN DEMANDS FOR CUT-OFF OF TANNER CRAB AND SALMON FISHING ARE UNJUSTIFIED. END SUMMARY.

2. ON OCTOBER 19 DCM AND OTHER EMBOFFS MET INFORMALLY WITH KAMENAGA OF JAPAN FISHERIES ASSOCIATION, MATSUURA OF FISHERIES AGENCY AND TWO FISHING COMPANY OFFICIALS ASSOCIATED WITH KAMENAGA. DISCUSSION OF OUTSTANDING FISHERIES QUESTIONS WAS VERY FRANK AND EXTREMELY FRIENDLY. MATSUURA, NOT UNEXPECTEDLY, DID MOST OF THE TALKING FOR JAPANESE SIDE, WITH OTHER JAPANESE SUPPORTING HIM FULLY.

3. JAPANESE DID NOT SURFACE ANY NEW PROPOSALS, BUT DID
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EMPHASIZE SEVERAL POINTS OF INTEREST. THEY CONFIRMED

THAT A US-JAPAN GIFA MUST GO TO THE DIET FOR RATIFICATION. SINCE DIET MUST TAKE UP JFY 77 BUDGET AS PRIORITY ORDER OF BUSINESS AND CANNOT COMPLETE IT MUCH BEFORE APRIL 1, JAPANESE ARE CONVINCED THAT GIFA CANNOT GO INTO EFFECT BY MARCH 1 DEADLINE. THEY HAVE NO READY SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM BUT ARE ANXIOUS THAT WE OR THEY FIND ONE.

4. JAPANESE ALSO WANT US TO CONCLUDE GIFA WITH THE USSR FIRST. JAPANESE FEAR THAT, IF THEY AGREE TO GIFA TERMS AHEAD OF USSR, THE SOVIETS WILL DEMAND EQUIVALENT CONCESSIONS IN THE NEW JAPANESE-SOVIET AGREEMENT WHICH MUST BE NEGOTIATED SOON. THAT COULD BE VERY COSTLY FOR JAPAN.

5. JAPANESE SEEM AGREEABLE TO OPINION THAT A REASONABLE MSY FOR ALASKAN POLLOCK IS ABOUT ONE MILLION TONS. HOWEVER, THEY DO NOT AGREE WITH ARGUMENT THAT THE TOTAL CATCH QUOTA SHOULD BE 150,000 TONS LOWER TO PROVIDE A "STOCK BACK" ALLOWANCE.

6. JAPANESE BELIEVE THAT ALASKAN CALL FOR TOTAL DENIAL OF ACCESS TO NORTH PACIFIC CRAB AND SALMON IS COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE AND INSIST THAT US ADOPT A MORE REASONABLE POSITION. HODGSON

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